97766

SPECIAL BULLETIN

LOS ANGELES COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

SH-AD-267

PETER J. PITCHESS - SHERIFF

$5,000 REWARD

FOR INFORMATION LEADING TO THE ARREST AND CONVICTION OF THE MURDERER OF KARYN KUPCINET

KARYN KUPCINET

As an aid to the investigation of the murder of actress Karyn Kupcinet, her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Irv Kupcinet, offer a reward of $5,000 for information leading directly to the arrest and conviction of the person or persons responsible for her death which took place on November 28, 1963, in Hollywood, California. The reward is on deposit with the City National Bank of Beverly Hills, California.

In order to qualify for this reward, the information must be furnished in person or by U. S. Mail directly to the:

Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department
Homicide Detail, Los Angeles 12, California
Phone: 626-9511, Extension 82801

Effective dates of this reward are February 11, 1964 to August 10, 1964 inclusive. Information must be furnished and claim made during this period.

Through mutual agreement Thomas P. White, retired Justice of the California Supreme Court, will arbitrate any conflict of claim.

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
OFFICE OF CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER-CORONER

MEDICAL REPORT

Name Karen Kupinet Case No. 97766

Date 12-1-63 Time 2:00 am IN ☒ OUT ☐ Dr. KADE

☐ INVESTIGATION ☒ AUTOPSY ☒ PENDING ☒ FINAL ON 1-2-64

CAUSE OF DEATH:

Asphyxia

Due to: Manual Strangulation

Due to:

OTHER SIGNIFICANT CONDITIONS CONTRIBUTING TO DEATH

LABORATORY
- ☐ Micro.
- ☐ Neuro.
- ☐ Bact.
- 3-A.S. ☐ Photo By Stinak 1/2/64
- ☐ Date 808
- ☒ Toxicology
  - ☐ Alcohol
  - ☐ Barbs.
  - ☐ C.O.
  - ☐ Too Long for Alcohol
  - ☒ Other ---- Explain Below

SPECIMENS SUBMITTED

test for Rx medication
Dr Red box

MODE OF DEATH ☐ NATURAL ☐ ACCIDENT ☐ SUICIDE ☒ HOMICIDE ☐ ABORTION ☐ UNDETERMINED

Evidence of Injury at work ☐ Yes ☐ No Date ____ Time ____ A.M. P.M. Describe: ____

DATE OF OPERATION

OPERATION—Check One:
- ☐ NO OPERATION PERFORMED
- ☐ OPERATION PERFORMED—FINDINGS USED IN DETERMINING ABOVE STATED CAUSE OF DEATH
- ☐ OPERATION PERFORMED—FINDINGS NOT USED IN DETERMINING ABOVE STATED CAUSE OF DEATH

MORTUARY ____

Embalmed by: RW Bair License No. 3433 ☒ Yes AT autopsy Blood Sample Taken ☐ No Crypt No. 20

Medical Evidence ~~☒~~ Yes No ☐ Describe: Clothing ☐ Yes ~~☒~~ No

Embalmer's Observations: Dr Red Spec. Box 2-Bottles 2 vials. Body Temp. Not Taken By ____

Room Temp. ____ Time ____

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION Age 22 Sex Fe Race Cauc. Complexion Med Wt. 122 lbs. Ht. 66 In.

Hair Brown Teeth U FAIR Eyes Brown Pupils Dempsey Scars, amputations, beard ____

Appliances on body NONE Tattoo or deformity ____

Hospitalized ☐ Yes ☒ No Hospital Report ☐ Yes ☐ No Hospital No. ____ Unit ____

In ____ Jail Hospital Duration ____

For ____

Other History ____

Supplied By Sheriff Dept - Hom Det - Walthe Address ____ Phone ____

Physician Leon Krohn Address: ____ Phone ____

Diagnosis or Comment:

Information taken by J Th Decker

MEDICAL EXAMINER'S COMMENTS:

C/C Pending
12-1-63. JG

M.D.

76M118I-3-63

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
OFFICE OF CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER-CORONER

CASE REPORT

Tape # 1-188 Start 559 End 576 Case No. 97766

Hospital No. _____ Crypt # 20 Taken by Malins

Post Mortem at Coroner Request of _____

NAME Karen KUPCINET AGE 22 Sex F Race C Date and Time of Death 11-30-63 found 7:00p

Place of Death 1227 ½ 940 Sweetzer ave. W. Hollywood County Pronounced Dead by _____

Reported by Walkie Address Sheriff Phone _____

Date 11-30-63 Time 9:15 ~~A.M.~~ P.M. Phone at Scene _____

Police Investigation ☐ Yes ☐ No Police Agency same

Officer _____ Date _____ Time _____ A.M. P.M. Supplemental Request _____

REPORTED AS: on couch in the nood, body decomposed.
- ☐ Natural
- ☐ Accident
- ☐ Suicide
- ☒ Homicide
- ☐ Undetermined
- ☐ At work

Residence of Deceased same Occupation Unemployed. Religion ?

Employer _____ Soc. Sec. Number ? Military No. _____ Vet. _____

Next of Kin Irving Kupcinet Address chicago. Phone _____

Relationship Father Notified by NOT NOTIFIED at _____ A.M. P.M.

Weight 120 lbs. Height 64 in. Hair Brown Teeth U L Fair Eyes Br Mustache _____

Tattoo or Deformity _____ Body Condition POOR - Decomposed. 1120 Prints ☐ Yes ☐ No Property ☒ Yes ☐ No

Brought in by Decker & Fields Date 11-30-63 A.M. ~~P.M.~~ Door Sealed ☐ Yes ☒ No

INQUEST ☐ Yes ☒ No Held on _____ Inquest Deputy _____

INVESTIGATION ACTIVE

CERTIFICATE ISSUED: Pending _____ By _____ FINAL 1-3-64 By _____

REMARKS: Dec was last ~~seen~~ seen Wed night about 8 PM Found at 7 PM by a friend Mark Goddard 2023 Coldwater Canyon Friend states deceased was upset and seemed despondent.

Dec lived by herself and in this apartment for about 4 months.

Deceased ~~laid~~ lying on couch on her back, she had been turned over prior to arrival of Coroner. Body in the nude. Sheriff has a note in their custody. It may be a suicide note.

Dec had been treated by a Dr Leon Krohn 9735 Wilshire Blvd Ca 6-6261. Dr. out of town.

No other info avail.

J Decker Deputy

Assigned to Dr. _____ Pending - 12-1-63 JG FINAL CERTIFICATE By AOB - 1/2/64.

76C108B4-3-63

76A890— Cdb 11-63

File # 97766

OFFICE OF COUNTY CORONER

Date DEC. 1, 1963 Time 2:00 AM

I performed an autopsy on the body of KAREN KUPCINET

at the Los Angeles County Coroner's Mortuary, Hall of Justice, Los Angeles,

and from the anatomic findings and pertinent history I ascribe the death to:

ASPHYXIA

DUE TO: MANUAL STRANGULATION

(Final January 2, 1964)

ANATOMIC SUMMARY

GENERAL:

1. Advanced post-mortem decomposition of body, organs and tissues, with interstitial putrefactive gas formation.

INJURIES:

1. Compression fracture, left side of hyoid bone, with deep soft tissue hemorrhage of neck, left side of thyroid gland, thyroid cartilage, base of tongue, epiglottis and larynx.

AUTOPSY FINDINGS

EXTERNAL EXAMINATION:

The unembalmed, decomposed body, is that of a Caucasian female, reported as 22 years of age, measuring 5'6" in length, weighing 122 pounds, with brown hair, brown eyes and discolored complexion. The soft tissues of the face are bloated and dark greenish-purple with interstitial gaseous distortion of the eyelids, lips, cheeks and soft tissue of the neck. There is dark greenish-purple discoloration of the skin surfaces extending upward from the level of the mandible and bluish-green discolored bloating of the neck tissue extending downward toward the level of the clavicles. In numerous areas skin slip are visible on remaining portions of the body as well as bluish-green putrefactive discoloration of the abdominal wall and protuberance of the abdomen resultant from intraperitoneal gas formation. No penetrating or lacerating wounds are observed on any of the body surfaces. No scars, marks or tattoos are observed.

Hemorrhagic fluid exudes and bubbles forth from the nostrils and mouth but no blood is visible in the ear canals. No

satisfactory evaluation can be made of sclerae or conjunctivae due to the advanced decomposition and post-mortem lividity. Numerous yellowish-white, rod-like fly eggs are present in the scalp hair but no motile maggot forms are evident.

A copious yellowish-white discharge is present in the vaginal orifice but no hemorrhage is observed.

PRIMARY INCISION:

On opening the body the thoracic and abdominal viscera are in the usual position and relationships except for distention of intestines by putrefactive fermentation of gas.

The pleural and peritoneal surfaces are smooth and glistening and free of adhesions. No unusual or excessive fluid is present in the body cavities other than apparently as the result of post-mortem decomposition.

ORGAN DESCRIPTION

HEART:

The heart is normal in size and contour, weighing 200 grams, is contained in a normal appearing pericardial sac with an average quantity of fluid which is somewhat hemorrhagic, however no discrete clots or zones of adhesion are present in the pericardial sac.

Dissection of the heart in the usual hemodynamic sequence reveals normal size and configuration of cardiac chambers, great vessels and valves except for the softening and post-mortem degeneration. The epicardial surfaces are smooth and glistening. The aorta is free of atherosclerosis throughout its length.

The coronary ostia are normal in size and position and dissection of the coronary circulation reveals complete freedom from atherosclerosis throughout all branches. No valvular lesions or deformities are demonstrated. The myocardium on section shows only marked diffuse softening consistent with advanced post-mortem change.

LUNGS:

The right and left lungs weigh 560 and 250 grams, respectively,

have smooth pleural surfaces and show dependent lividity and "swiss cheese" degeneration of the parenchyma consistent with post-mortem change.

Examination of the tracheobronchial tree reveals marked dark reddish-purple staining of the mucosal surfaces of the principal bronchi and trachea and considerable desquamation of respiratory epithelium. The mucosal surfaces of the larynx, epiglottis and pharynx show similar dark reddish-coloration. There is considerable hemorrhage about the thyroid cartilage and thyroid gland, most pronounced on the left side, and a distinct fracture is present on the left side of the hyoid bone with medial displacement of the posterior fragment. No fractures are evident in the thyroid cartilage. Because of the advanced state of postmortem decomposition and postmortem lividity, no petechial hemorrhages are identifiable.

LIVER:

This organ weighs 1330 grams, has smooth capsular surfaces and, except for marked "swiss cheese" putrefactive change, no abnormality or stigmata of disease are apparent. The gallbladder and biliary tree are grossly normal.

SPLEEN:

This organ weighs 130 grams, has smooth capsular surfaces and internally shows virtually complete liquefaction of the splenic pulp.

PANCREAS:

This gland is extensively autolyzed.

ADRENALS:

These glands are virtually unidentifiable in the present state of post-mortem deterioration.

KIDNEYS:

The kidneys are roughly equal in size and together weigh 220 grams. The capsular surfaces are smooth and section reveals intact cortical and medullary architecture. The pelves, calyces and ureters are normal. The urinary bladder contains a minimal quantity of fluid and considerable putrefactive gas.

FEMALE REPRODUCTIVE SYSTEM:

The uterus, tubes and ovaries show no anatomic lesions or abnormalities other than resultant from post-mortem degeneration. There is a hemorrhagic corpus luteum in the left ovary. The uterus is normal in size and contour and section reveals an intact endometrial surface without indication of current or recent pregnancy. The uterine cervix shows no evidence of instrumentation or trauma. The mucosal surfaces of the vagina are grossly intact.

GASTROINTESTINAL TRACT:

Except for extensive post-mortem autolysis, no gross abnormalities or anatomic lesions are observed in any portion of the gastrointestinal tract. The stomach contains an estimated 25 cc of slightly pinkish-gray, cloudy liquid. The gastric mucosa shows no recognizable zones of erosion, ulceration, hyperemia or foci of hemorrhage. The pylorus and duodenum are likewise free of recognizable anatomic lesions. The appendix is present and grossly normal.

SKELETAL SYSTEM:

Except for the fracture of the left side of the hyoid bone previously mentioned, no osseous lesions or abnormalities are demonstrated in any portion of the skeletal system.

CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM:

Reflection of the scalp reveals no subcutaneous, subaponeurotic or temporalis muscle hemorrhage. The calvarium is normal externally and on removal reveals no zones of subdural or subarachnoid hemorrhage.

The brain weighs 1380 grams and is considerably softened and degenerated as a result of autolysis, however no gross abnormalities or anatomic lesions are demonstrated externally or on section. The vessels about the base of the brain are normal in distribution and completely free of atherosclerosis. The cerebellum, pons, medulla and brain stem are grossly intact. Removal of the dura reveals no skull fractures, either in the calvarium or in the base of the cranial cavity. The foramen magnum and cervical spinal canal are grossly normal.

SPECIMENS:

Blood, liver, kidney, stomach and contents for toxicology.

FILE #97766
KAREN KUPCINET
DEC. 1, 1963

SECTIONS:

Representative portions of routine organs for storage.

Harold Kade M.D.

HAROLD KADE, M.D.
DEPUTY MEDICAL EXAMINER

HK/AOB/P

1/8/64

76A878— Cdb 4-63

97766

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

OFFICE OF CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER-CORONER

AUTOPSY CHECK SHEET

DEC 2 1982

Name KAREN KUPCINET File # 97766 Date Time

EXTERNAL EXAM
- Sex
- Race
- Age
- Height
- Weight
- Hair
- Eyes
- Sclera
- Teeth
- Mouth
- Tongue
- Nose
- Chest
- Breasts
- Abdomen
- Scar
- Genital
- Edema
- Skin
- Decub

HEART Wt 200
- Pericard
- Hypert
- Dilat
- Muscle
- Valves
- Coronar

AORTA

VESSELS

LUNGS Wt
- R 560
- L 250
- Adhes
- Fluid
- Atelectasis
- Oedema
- Congest
- Consol
- Bronchi
- Nodes

PHARYNX

TRACHEA fr L. side of hyoid

THYROID

THYMUS

PERITONEUM
- Fluid
- Adhes

LIVER Wt 1330
- Caps
- Lobul
- Fibros
- G B
- Calc
- Bile ducts

SPLEEN Wt 130
- Color
- Consist
- Caps
- Malpig

PANCREAS

ADRENALS

KIDNEYS Wt 220
- Caps
- Cortex
- Vessels
- Pelvis
- Ureter

BLADDER

GENITALIA
- Prost
- Testes
- Uterus
- Tubes
- Ovar

OESOPHAGUS

STOMACH

DUOD & SM INT

APPENDIX

LARGE INT

ABDOM NODES

SKELETON
- Spine
- Marrow

BRAIN Wt 1380
- Dura
- Fluid
- Ventric
- Vessels
- Ears
- Nasal Sin

PITUITARY

TOXICOLOGY

SECTIONS

GROSS IMPRESSION

H. KAUSS M.D.

Deputy Medical Examiner

76R290A—Tox #4— Cdb 6-63

REPORT OF CHEMICAL ANALYSIS

LOS ANGELES COUNTY CORONER
Toxicology Laboratory
Hall of Justice
Los Angeles, California

File No. 97766 I

Name of Deceased Karen Kupcinet Lab. No. 12-27

Date Submitted December 2, 1963 Time 8 a.m.

Autopsy Surgeon H. Kade, M.D.

Material Submitted:

Blood	x	Liver	x	Stomach	x
Brain		Lung		Lavage	
Femur		Spleen		Urine	
Kidney	x	Sternum		Gall bladder	
Drugs	x	Chemicals			

Test Desired: Meprobamate

Laboratory Findings:

Blood: Meprobamate 1.9 mg. per cent

Drugs: (1) Pint jar 1/4 full of coffee (liquid).

Ed Thompson says this is not the therapeutic range

Examined By Edward R. Thompson Head Toxicologist. Date December 11, 1963

76R290A—Tox #4— Cdb 6-63

REPORT OF CHEMICAL ANALYSIS

LOS ANGELES COUNTY CORONER
Toxicology Laboratory
Hall of Justice
Los Angeles, California

1st Supplement

File No. 97766 I

Name of Deceased Karen Kupcinet Lab. No. 12-27

Date Submitted December 2, 1963 Time 8 a.m.

Autopsy Surgeon H. Kade, M.D.

Material Submitted:			
	Blood	Liver	Stomach
	Brain	Lung	Lavage
	Femur	Spleen	Urine
	Kidney	Sternum	Gall bladder
	Drugs x	Chemicals	

Test Desired:

Laboratory Findings:

Drugs: Thirteen containers of medications submitted, one of which is as follows:

(1) Container, #34743, 11/6/63, containing 24 white tablets and two small pieces of a tablet, said to be Miltown by druggist, 400 mg., 30 tablets, originally filled 7/22/63, one refill 11/6/63.

(see original report)

Edward R. Thompson

Examined By Head Toxicologist. Date December 16, 1963

REPORT OF MICROBIOLOGICAL ANALYSIS

MEDICAL EXAMINER-CORONER

Bacteriology Laboratory

Hall of Justice
Los Angeles, California

File No. 97766

Name of Deceased Kupcinet, Karen

Date Submitted 12/3/63 Time

Deputy Medical Examiner H. Kade, M.D.

Material Submitted Vaginal discharge

Laboratory Findings:

Gram Stain: No pus cells. Few extracellular Gram-negative diplococci seen.

Culture: No Neisseria gonorrhoeae isolated.

Examined by Ronald Van Sun Date 12/5/63

76R336M- Cdb 9-63